

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. Claims 1, and 5-7, which are independent, have been amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed, specifically at pages 9-10. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which the Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S Patent No. 5,999,169 to Lee (hereinafter, merely “Lee”) in view of “Improving PC Ease of Use: A Report from the Ease of Use/PC Quality Roundtable”, February 2000 (hereinafter, merely “PC Article”). Applicants have reviewed the rejection and respectfully request the rejection be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“...wherein the server means loads, at the time of start-up, a script file describing a status transition of the input device in the script language, the status transition based on hardware that can be supported by changing the script file and the status transition represents how each status shifts in a particular situation, and information relating to incompatible applications that are to be executed, reads the status transition corresponding to the operation of the input device, and executes the operation corresponding to the status transition.” (emphasis added)

Applicants submit that nothing has been found in the cited portions of Lee or the PC Article, taken alone or in combination, that would teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 1. Specifically, Applicants submit that the references fail to teach or suggest a script file describing a status transition of the input device in the script language, the status transition based on hardware that can be supported by changing the script file and the status transition represents how each status shifts in a particular situation, and information relating to incompatible applications that are to be executed, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that the PC Article teaches away from the claimed invention. As understood by Applicants, the PC Article describes a DLL/driver management or check system to flag incompatible files at install and alert a user of known/potential conflicts at boot time to correct the problem. (See pages 10 and 11 of PC Article, emphasis added) Indeed, the claimed invention recites, "...the status transition based on hardware that can be supported by changing the script file... information relating to incompatible applications that are to be executed". Thus, the claimed invention enables incompatible applications to be executed.

Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable.

Independent claims 5-7 are similar in scope and are believed patentable for similar reasons.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same

reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosures in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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